

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed September 11, 2006, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

By means of the present amendment, the current Abstract has been deleted and substituted with the enclosed New Abstract which better conforms to U.S. practice.

By means of the present amendment, claims 1-10 have been amended for better clarity and conformance to U.S. practice, such as beginning the dependent claims with 'The' instead of 'A', changing "characterized in that" to "--wherein--". Claims 1-10 were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings for not showing an inner vessel and outer bulb as recited in the claims. In response, a new drawing sheet including a new FIG 8 is

enclosed. Further, the specification has been amended for conformance with the new FIG 8. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the drawings objection and approval of the enclosed proposed new drawing.

In the Office Action, claims 4-10 were objected to for multiple dependency. In response, claims 3-10 have been amended to remove the multiple dependency. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection to claims 4-10 is respectfully requested and examination on the merit is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 2-3 and 5 are objected to for certain informalities. Without agreeing with the Examiner, and in the interest of advancing prosecution, claim 2-3 and 5 have been amended to remove the informalities noted by the Examiner. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 2-3 and 5 has been overcome and an indication as such is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as allegedly indefinite. It is believed that the objected claims are claims 2-3 and 8, not claim 5, since page 5 of the Office Action refers to "homogeneous and/or inhomogeneous structured arrangement," which are recited in claim

8, not claim 5. Without agreeing with the Examiner, and in the interest of advancing prosecution, claim 2-3 and 8 have been amended to remove the informalities noted by the Examiner. It is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-3 and 8 has been overcome and an indication as such is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0135304 (Honda). Further, claims 2-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Honda in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,952,784 (Witting). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-20 are patentable Honda and Witting for at least the following reasons.

Honda is directed to a high pressure discharge lamp, shown in FIG 1, having a ceramic discharge vessel 1 having an enclosure 1a. Electrodes 4 are provided in the enclosure 1a. The electrodes 4 have base portions 4a and principle portions 4b. The principle portions 4b of electrodes 4 include a winding of thin tungsten coil, as recited on page 10, paragraph [0135].

Witting is directed to an electrodeless high intensity discharge lamp where a stabilized surface 50 is provided on the

interior surface of the arc tube adjacent the region of highest intensity, as shown in FIG 2. The presence of the stabilized surface 50 allows retention of liquid metal halide thereto for minimizing the damaging effects caused by operation and use of the Witting lamp. That is, the stabilized or roughened surface 50 enhances securement of liquid metal halide which attaches itself to the stabilized surface 50, as recited on column 4, lines 40-45.

In stark contrast, the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claim 18, amongst other patentable elements, requires (illustrative emphasis provided):

a pattern configured to increase a
diffuseness of the discharge arc.

A pattern configured to increase arc diffuseness is nowhere taught or suggested in Honda, Witting and combination thereof. Rather, Witting merely discloses a stabilized surface 50 that enhances attachment of liquid metal halide to this stabilized surface 50 to protect the Witting lamp, as recited on column 1, line 9.

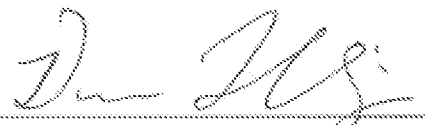
Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that independent

claims 1 and 18 be allowed. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-17 and 19-20 should also be allowed based at least on their dependence from independent claims 1 and 18.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Dicran Halajian, Reg. 39,703
Attorney for Applicant(s)
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Enclosure: New drawing sheet (1 sheet including FIG 8)
New Abstract

THORNE & HALAJIAN, LLP
Applied Technology Center
111 West Main Street
Bay Shore, NY 11706
Tel: (631) 665-5139
Fax: (631) 665-5101